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Epistle Dedicatory

Henry Oldenburg

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TO THE
Royal Society.

I will not become me, to adde any Attributes to a Title, which has a Fulneſs of Luſtre from his Majeſties *Denomination.*

In theſe Rude Collections, which are onely the Gleanings of my private *diverſions in broken hours, it may appear, that many Minds and Hands are in many places induſtriouſly employed, under Your Countenance and by Your Example, in the purſuit of thoſe Excellent Ends, which belong to Your Heroical Undertakings.*

Some of theſe are but the Intimations of large Compilements. And ſome Eminent Members of Your Society, *have obliged the Learned World with Incomparable* Volumes, *which are not herein mention'd, becauſe they were finiſht, and in great Reputation abroad, before I entred upon this Taske. And no ſmall Number are at preſent engaged for thoſe weighty Productions, which*

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which require both *Time and Aſſiſtance, for their due Maturity. So that no man can from theſe Glimpſes of Light take any juſt Meaſure of Your Performances, or of Your Proſecutions; but every man may perhaps receive ſome benefit from theſe Parcels, which I gueſſed to be ſomewhat conformable to Your Deſign.*

This is my Solicitude, That, as I ought not to be unfaithful to thoſe Counſels you have committed to my Truſt, ſo alſo that I may not altogether waſte any minutes of the leaſure you afford me. And thus have I made the beſt uſe of ſome of them, that I could deviſe; To ſpread abroad Encouragements, Inquiries, Directions, and Patterns, that may animate, and draw on Univerſal Aſsiſtances.

The Great God *proſper You in the Noble Engagement of Diſperſing the true Luſtre of his Glorious Works, and the Happy Inventions of obliging Men all over the World, to the General Benefit of Mankind: So wiſhes with real Affections,*

Your humble and obedient Servant

HENRY OLDENBURG.